



**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES**

**October 12, 2015**

**City Hall Kiva Forum  
3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

**PRESENT:** Bob Fox, Chair  
James Campbell, Vice-Chair  
Laurie Coe, Commissioner  
Ricoh Danielson, Commissioner  
Joseph Ettinger, Commissioner  
Ragan Grossman, Commissioner  
Andrew Song, Commissioner

**STAFF:** Sharon Cini

**GUESTS:** Florita Campbell  
Daria Lohman

**CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL**

Chair Fox called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Members present as noted above

**1. Approval of minutes from the September 14, 2015 meeting**

**VICE-CHAIR CAMPBELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2015  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES.  
COMMISSIONER ETTINGER SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A  
UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).**

## **2. Public Comment**

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

## **3. Presentation, discussion and welcome to new Human Relations Commissioner John Ettinger; Welcome to Daria Lohman, upcoming Human Relations Commissioner (active October 17, 2015)**

Commissioner Ettinger introduced himself and discussed his civil rights background and his interest in being a member of the Commission.

Chair Fox welcomed incoming Commissioner Daria Lohman who was attending the meeting.

## **4. Presentation and discussion of Commissioner Bob Fox, outgoing Chairperson**

Sharon Cini thanked Chair Fox for his years of service on the Commission.

Chair Fox said a few words about the positive difference the Commission as a group has made during his tenure and encouraged staff and the Commission to continue striving to make a difference for the City of Scottsdale.

On behalf of the Commission, Vice-Chair Campbell thanked Chair Fox for his leadership and wished him well in his future endeavors.

## **5. Election of new Chairperson**

**COMMISSIONER SONG NOMINATED JAMES CAMPBELL TO ACT AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. CHAIR FOX SECONDED THE NOMINATION AND JAMES CAMPBELL WAS ELECTED CHAIRPERSON WITH A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR CAMPBELL ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

**COMMISSIONER SONG NOMINATED RAGAN GROSSMAN TO ACT AS VICE CHAIRPERSON OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION. VICE-CHAIR CAMPBELL SECONDED THE NOMINATION AND RAGAN GROSSMAN WAS ELECTED VICE CHAIRPERSON WITH A VOTE OF SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). COMMISSIONER GROSSMAN ABSTAINED FROM THE VOTE.**

The newly elected officers will assume their roles at the November meeting.

## **6. Presentation, discussion and recommendation to staff liaison regarding Civil Dialogue event "*Interfaith community dialogue*" on January 27, 2016**

Vice-Chair Campbell noted that the Interfaith Community Dialogue is scheduled for January 27, 2016 at the Center for Performing Arts on Stage Two. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. and the event will commence at 8:00 a.m. He suggested that panelists be chosen from the four or five most prominent religions in Scottsdale, noting that the Chief Officer of the Arizona Interfaith Movement has recommended some speakers. Vice-Chair Campbell reviewed the mission of the HRC, which states: Scottsdale HRC Civil

Dialogue Series Dialogue And Beyond; Exploring the interfaith contribution and promoting diversity, inclusion, and unity, eliminating discrimination and prejudice, their programs and accomplishments in providing socioeconomic, educational, and political opportunities for a diverse population.

Discussion ensued regarding each Commissioner participating in interviewing speakers who are willing to use the platform to talk about things their organization is doing currently in the name of diversity and inclusion; finding a facilitator who is able to balance the interaction between speakers; and inviting other faith leaders to attend as audience members with the opportunity to make comments.

Ms. Cini noted that the Scottsdale General Plan has several areas that fit with the goals of the Human Relations Commission and the Civil Dialogue Series, including: Collaboration and Engagement; Healthy Communities (goal HC5); Diversity; and Disabilities (HC7). She suggested that discussion about these opportunities be agendaized for a future meeting.

## **7. Staff updates regarding upcoming diversity events and activities**

Ms. Cini discussed the success of recent events. The ONE Community Multicultural event was held on September 16, 2015. Ms. Cini noted that through that event she has made a connection with a representative from the Pat Tillman Veterans Center at ASU, who she hopes will be a resource for achieving the City's goal of hiring people with veteran status. She showed pictures and talked briefly about the "Beyond Right and Wrong" Civil Dialogue Event held on October 1, 2015 and the NAACP Freedom Fund Gala held on October 3, 2015.

The Scottsdale Mayor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and scholarship event is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2015 at Chaparral Suites Resort with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and the event starting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Cini reviewed the evening's agenda and scholarship and award recipients.

The LGBT Non-Discrimination Ordinance City Council work study session has been rescheduled to Tuesday, November 17, 2015 starting at 5:00 p.m. The City Attorney's office will present a Non-Discrimination Ordinance that would protect the LGBT community and the community as a whole in the areas of employment, public housing, and public accommodation. There will be an opportunity for public comment.

City Launch, sponsored by the Scottsdale Charros and Mayor Lane, is scheduled for Monday, October 19, 2015 beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Granite Reef Senior Center.

## **8. Report from the Chair**

Chair Fox thanked Commissioners and staff for their commitment and encouraged them to continue with their mission. He recognized the efforts of past staff and former Commissioners Martin and Jameson for their dedication. He noted appreciation that Mayor Lane was always engaged and willing to meet with him and Chief Rodbell for taking interest in presenting to the Commission on civil dialogue issues. Chair Fox said that he will forward HRC historical documents to Ms. Cini to be shared with Commissioners.

## **9. Commissioner Items**

Commissioner Danielson said that he attended the Pilipino American Heritage Month Festival, which was educational and enjoyable.

Vice-Chair Campbell attended the Pilipino American Heritage Month Festival, which is an event that celebrates the long friendship between the Philippines and America. The City has been invited to participate in the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Valley Walk scheduled for Saturday, October 17th in front of the Arizona State Capitol with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. He suggested that next year the City put together an organized group to participate. Additional information about the event can be found at [www.namivalleywalk.org](http://www.namivalleywalk.org).

Commissioner Grossman participated in the "Beyond Right and Wrong" event. She found the event moving and recommended that everyone watch the film.

Commissioner Ettinger talked about the Syrian refugees coming to Arizona and the need for the City of Scottsdale to be prepared to address the impact that cultural and religious differences could have on the community. He asked that a discussion on the topic be agendaized for the next meeting.

Commissioner Coe said that she attended the "Beyond Right and Wrong" event, the East Valley NAACP Gala and the Mayor's Breakfast at the Scottsdale Airport.

Commissioner Ettinger noted that he attended the Mayor's Breakfast.

Commissioner Song attended the "Beyond Right and Wrong" event and recommended everyone view the film. He had dinner with California Congressman Mike Honda who is an advocate of civil rights issues and a proponent of LGBT issues. He also attended the NAACP Gala. Commissioner Song said that he has been in communication with and learning about the Valley's Sikh Community. He noted that he has been having a difficult time getting in touch with representatives from the Alliance for Defending Freedom, but feels it is important to have an open dialogue with them so that there can be a clear understanding of their views.

## **10. Discussion regarding the draft agenda for the next meeting and dates, times, and topics for upcoming meetings**

Ms. Cini will follow up with Chief Rodbell about giving the Commission updates on community policing. The November agenda may also include the Civil Dialogue event; a presentation from the Center for Performing Arts art director on ideas for an arts night out; and a discussion about the Syrian immigrants.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz